

**REMARKS**


Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-16, 20, and 22 are amended. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found, for example, in the specification and in the original claims. No new matter is added.

In reply to the March 10, 2009 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-17 and 22 with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-22 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement are respectfully  
requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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